

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 NASA-04 MC-02

INT-08 DRC-01 /084 W

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R 210330Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 734

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E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, JA, US, TZ, MARR

SUBJ: SPACE COOPERATION - DOWNRANGE TRACKING STATION AT
KWAJALEIN.

REF: STATE 045117

1. DESPITE CONTINUAL INQUIRES BY EMBASSY. FONOFF HAS STILL NOT
INDICATED READINESS TO EXCHANGE NOTES ON TRACKING STATION.
FONOFF HAS ATTRIBUTED DELAY ONLY TO PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS
FOR COLLECTING FINAL SIGN-OFFS FROM VARIOUS AGENCIES.

2. IN VIEW OF DELAY, SCICOUNS HAS MADE INQUIRY AT STA AND HAS
LEARNED THAT SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE HAS APPARENTLY EMERGED THERE.
STA IS CONCERNED THAT, IN PRESENT POLITICIZED CLIMATE IN JAPAN,
AGREEMENT, WHICH CALLS FOR LOCATION OF STATION IN U.S. NATIONAL
RANGE ON KWAJALEIN, GOVERNMENT MAY BE CRITICIZED THAT U.S.
MIGHT HAVE ACCESS TO JAPANESE STATION FOR U.S. MILITARY USE.
IN PROVIDING THIS EXPLANATION FOR DELAY, YAMARRO OF STA STATED
AGREEMENT WOULD BE SENT TO HIGHER LEVEL IN STA FOR CONSIDERATION,
BUT HE PREDICTED EARLY APPROVAL WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING.
YAMARRO SPECIFICALLY RELATED PROBLEM TO CURRENT POLITICAL
DIFFICULTIES OF STA MINISTER MORIYAMA (E.E., RADIOCHEMICAL
ANALYSIS SCANDAL IN ATOMIC ENERGY BUREAU), THUS LEAVING LITTLE
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DOUBTTTHAT STACLEARANCE OF AGREEMENT WOULD DEPEND ON MINISTERS

PERSONAL APPROVAL.

3. NASDA OFFICIALS HAVE ALSO IDENTIFIED POTENTIAL PROBLEM IN AGREEMENT FROM THEIR STANDPOINT. THIS RELATES TO PARA 9 OF U.S. NOTE WHICH LIMITS SUPPORT TO TWO LAUNCHES. NASDA HAS POINTED OUT THAT EACH MISSION COVERED BY AGREEMENT, (I.E. ETS - I AND ISS) IS REPRESENTED BY PRIMARY AND BACK-UP SATELLITE AND LAUNCH VEHICLM THUS, IN EVENT OF FAILURE OF ONE OR BOTH PRIMARY LAUNCHES , BACK-UP LAUNCHES WOULD INCREASE TOTAL NUMBER OF LAUNCHES TO 3 OR 4. NASDA WAS TALKED OUT OF REQUESTING WORDING CHANGE TO COVER THIS EVENTUALITY IN ORDER TO AVOID FURTHER DELAY. HOWEVER THEY HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE TO SCICOUNS FOR SYMPATHETIC INTERPRETATION OF AGREEMENT IN EVENT BACK-UP LAUNCHES ARE NEEDED.

4. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT, INFORMATION ON DELAY IN EXCHANGE OF NOTES BE CLOSELY HELD FOR TIME BEING, PENDING FURTHER ADVICE FROMFONOFF OR STA ON POSSIBLE EXTENT OF DELAY. IF DELAY LIKELY TO BE EXTENDED, U.S. CONTRACTOR WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE TO BE ADVISED. IN MEANTIME, IF DEPT WILLING TO ACCOMODATE NASDA CONCERN, PLEASE ADVISE. THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY SUBSTITUTION OF WORD "MISSIONS" FOR LAUNCHES" IN PARA 9 OF U.S. NOTE. SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, SPACE TECHNOLOGY, TRACKING STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO03730
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740059-1005
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740324/aaaaawvm.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 045117
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPACE COOPERATION - DOWNRANGE TRACKING STATION AT KWAJALEIN.
TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, JA, US, TZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005